



TeleAruba brings the Aruban version of “Survival” to the island’s scouts.

The “reality” show “Survival” is a big hit and seen many incarnations, and now the “Survival-Aruba” version has hit the local airwaves. On Friday evening, the TV show “Deporte” with Carmichael Bikker premiered the first event of what will become “SurFIVE Arikok 2006” “an exciting week of survival in the wilds of Arikok National Park.

The contenders during the first week of October will be three teams of scouts that win the three elimination rounds being held over the remaining weekends of September. Each weekend three different scout troops will have a team complete a series of tests while camping out at various locations of Aruban “mondi.” The fifteen tests will encompass 70% practical skills and 30% physical. The final five days spent at Arikok National Park will consist of 80% physical tests to see who are the toughest and most resourceful scouts, and will incorporate the elimination voting that are known to fans of the “Survival” series. A final group of five scouts will be deemed the winners and will receive an all expense paid trip to the Scouts 21<sup>st</sup> World Jamboree in July of 2007 taking place in the United Kingdom.

“SurFIVE” was conceptualized and will be hosted by Sergio Cordeiro, who normally is seen behind the camera at TeleAruba, as he is one of their well-known camera technicians. He confessed that he and the station have developed the program to encourage interest amongst the island’s youth in the benefits of scouting, particularly as a character-building pastime. “SurFIVE” will test the participating scouts on many levels, not only their resourcefulness and ability to “survive,” but also physical fitness and their character, and how well they support and work with their comrades.

The first weekend’s competition included the Kimball O’Hara, Naptali Henriquez Land and Sea, and St. Paul-Michael Scout Troops, who were lead by Scoutmaster Salvador Franken in opening the competition. The Arikok National Park Rangers will also participate in supervising the three teams that will have won the weekend elimination rounds. The final “SurFIVE” in the series will begin on Monday October 2 until Saturday, October 7 when the winners will be announced. Unlike the “Survival” series, everything will be on the up and up, and no dirty tricks will be allowed!